



TENNESSEE WEEKLY
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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Hot, Dry Conditions Taking A Toll

Most areas of Tennessee received on average only a quarter inch of rain last week with many areas receiving none. This coupled with above normal temperatures across the State made for a difficult week. Crops in some areas are showing signs of stress with the threat of decreased potential in production, while other areas benefitted from periodic rain showers. Last week’s heat and dry conditions sapped soil moisture and resulted in overall decline in crop conditions. However, the dry conditions allowed corn for grain harvest to begin, while tobacco harvest continued to progress ahead of the five-year average. The hot weather caused rapid plant maturation, while also deteriorating pastures and leaving the quality of the last hay cutting in question. Water is being hauled in some areas due to streams and creeks drying up. Once again, rain arrived over the weekend accompanied by lower temperatures which helped reduce stress, but more moisture is needed. In addition to corn and tobacco harvest, farmers were busy last week cutting and baling hay. Herbicide applications are still being made to soybeans due to late weed problems. There were 6 days considered suitable for field work during this past week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 25 percent very short, 40 percent short, 34 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 23 percent very short, 42 percent short, and 35 percent adequate.

CROP PROGRESS: Through August 20, 2000

CROP CONDITION: On August 18, 2000

Crop	This Week	Last Week	1999	Five Year Avg.	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
	Percent					Percent				
Corn - Dough	93	90	95	94	Corn	7	12	26	37	18
Corn - Dent	74	55	84	74	Soybeans	5	18	31	39	7
Corn - Mature	31	13	33	26	Cotton	0	5	30	57	8
Corn Silage - Harvested	57	36	55	36	Pastures	10	25	37	25	3
Soybeans - Blooming	92	86	91	87	Tobacco	4	7	24	51	14
Soybeans - Setting Pods	73	58	73	60						
Cotton - Bolls Opening	11	1	11	6						
Tobacco - Topped	85	75	86	75						
Burley - Harvested	34	17	36	24						
Dark Air - Harvested	33	13	40	27						
Dark Fire - Harvested	30	19	39	26						

CORN: Corn for grain harvest has begun on a limited basis across the State with variable yields being reported. Silage harvest continues well ahead of normal, with over half the acreage currently harvested.

SOYBEANS: So far crop development has taken advantage of recent spotty showers to progress ahead of schedule, but more rain is needed. As of Sunday, over 90 percent of the crop had bloomed, five points ahead of normal.

TOBACCO: Tobacco harvest is going well and currently is ahead of the five year average. Only 15 percent of the crop remains to be topped.

COTTON: Dry heat is rapidly maturing cotton with 11 percent of the acreage having open bolls. Growers in the extreme southern part of the State hope to start defoliating by next week.

PASTURES & HAY: Pastures are beginning to dry up in many locations forcing some cattle producers to feed hay and market portions of their herd early. Water is being hauled due to shallow streams and creeks. Second hay cuttings continued last week and most are complete.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION For week ending: 08/20/00 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 08/20/00				Current Week	Rain	Current	Departure	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	08/20/00	Days	Since April 1	From Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	101	60	79	+3	0.00	0	17.40	-2.96	1943	+110
Bristol	91	55	73	-2	0.01	1	18.00	+0.93	1317	+67
Brownsville_TN	101	64	81	+3	0.00	0	16.25	-4.16	2001	+380
Chattanooga	99	62	81	+4	0.00	0	20.55	+1.28	2052	+332
Clarksville_Sew	101	63	80	+4	0.45	2	22.21	+2.94	1919	+287
Cookeville	95	55	75	-1	0.00	0	22.63	+0.30	1478	+456
Covington	102	64	81	+4	0.00	0	18.92	-0.75	2024	+151
Crossville_AP	90	57	74	+2	0.00	0	23.52	+1.65	1366	+204
Dickson_AG	96	59	76	-2	0.03	1	18.75	-2.34	1590	-118
Dover_1W	99	62	78	+3	0.19	2	21.73	+1.51	1690	+244
Dyersburg	100	63	80	+2	0.07	1	19.20	-0.62	1956	-34
Erwin_1W	90	54	73	+2	0.01	1	21.95	+0.11	1300	-192
Huntingdon_Wate	97	58	75	-3	0.00	0	18.86	-1.52	1476	-71
Jackson_AG	99	61	79	+2	0.07	2	17.59	-3.07	1881	+98
Kingston_AG	96	60	78	+4	0.00	0	21.23	-1.39	1716	+374
Knoxville_AP	94	60	78	+3	0.05	1	23.08	+4.52	1717	+222
Lewisburg	102	52	75	-2	0.00	0	18.53	-2.94	1577	+64
Lexington_TN	100	61	79	+3	0.00	0	19.34	-0.64	1846	+748
Linden	101	55	78	+3	0.00	0	17.12	-4.33	1664	+145
Martin	102	61	81	+4	0.06	1	19.87	-1.36	1833	+116
Mc_Minnville_Tn	95	58	76	-2	0.00	0	19.26	-1.44	1646	-252
Memphis_AG	101	63	81	+0	0.07	1	15.60	-4.33	2066	-149
Milan	103	55	76	+0	0.02	1	15.71	-5.77	1579	-96
Murfreesboro_5N	99	58	77	+1	0.00	0	21.41	+0.49	1640	-241
Nashville	100	63	80	+3	0.01	1	18.55	-0.44	1938	+151
Newcomb	92	54	73	+1	0.00	0	21.24	-1.12	1353	+259
Oneida	93	52	73	+1	0.00	0	21.41	-0.95	1259	-342
Pikeville	99	55	77	+2	0.11	1	16.00	-3.84	1615	+139
Portland_TN	98	62	77	+2	0.00	0	19.63	-1.04	1680	+204
Pulaski_Water_P	101	57	78	+0	0.00	0	22.42	+2.01	1734	-54
Savannah_6SW	105	61	82	+4	0.00	0	16.45	-5.15	2085	+517
Sparta_TN	96	57	75	+1	0.00	0	25.96	+4.29	1604	+329
Springfield	99	55	76	+1	0.13	1	19.65	-0.10	1597	+106
Springhill	103	59	78	+3	0.05	1	18.35	-3.22	1764	+254
Union_City	100	58	77	+1	0.10	1	18.74	-1.64	1693	+21

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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